

Dr. King's dream vs. Republican reality

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National News

by Robert N. Taylor

Brimmer Projects black income of \$437 billion for new year

Authoritative black economist Andrew Brimmer is projecting that in 1995 total projected money income for African Americans will rise to \$437.3 billion. That means blacks in America will earn approximately 8 percent of the nation's total money income which is expected to climb to \$4.4 trillion. The former member of the Federal Reserve Board also projected that the number of blacks with jobs will average 13 million or 10.5 percent of the total labor force in 1995. Brimmer made his projections as part of the Black Enterprise magazine "Board of Economic Reports." However, Brimmer also found that black work force participation is weakening. He believes the weakening is a result of an increasing number of young black, inner city males not seeking employment. According to Brimmer, "To a considerable extent, the failure of blacks to make substantial progress in their relative economic status reflects a weakening in their participation in the labor force."

NEW YORK, NY

Jesse Jackson blasts conservatives, may run for presidency again

National black political leader, Jesse Jackson took his "Rise up and vote" message to London, England during the recent holiday period. While Queen Elizabeth delivered her annual address to the nation on one British television channel, Jackson delivered an "Alternative address" on another. He accused Britain's ruling Conservative Party and the increasingly powerful Republican Party in America of both pushing policies which are harmful to blacks, other minorities and women. According to Jackson, "In South Africa, the status quo was called racism. In Germany, it was called fascism. Now, in Britain and the U.S., it is called conservatism." He concluded, "We must rebel against it." Jackson also indicated during his address that he is considering challenging President Clinton for the Democratic nomination.

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Supreme Court decision could send a death blow to minority entrepreneurs

by Paul Joseph

A U.S. Supreme Court decision to review a federal contract awarded to a disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) may have devastating effects on minority- and women-owned businesses around the country as did a 1989 decision which, in effect, destroyed state and local set-aside programs.

Under the auspices of the Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund (MBELDEF) and the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC), minority businesses voiced their opposition to the Court's decision to hear an appeal from the 10th Circuit Court concerning its 1994 ruling in the Adarand Constructors vs. Peña, et al. case.

Adarand filed a suit against Federal

Peña, the U.S. secretary of transportation, arguing that it was overlooked by a major contractor, who subcontracted the work to a DBE under the "subcontracting compensation clause" of the Small Business Act, even though Adarand was the lowest bid.

The clause, which is not mandatory, allows prime contractors to receive a 1.5 percent bonus if they award a percentage of their construction projects to "disadvantaged firms," which includes both minority and non-minority businesses. The law was originally enacted in an effort to remedy national discriminatory practices against minority businesses. The Colorado highway agency awards 12 to 15 percent of its contracts to DBEs.

The CFLHD awarded a \$1 million-plus prime contract to Mountain Gravel & Construction Company for a federal highway project known as the West Dolores Project. Shortly after, Adarand submitted a subcontracting bid to construct the guardrail portion of the project. Although Adarand submitted the lowest bid, the prime construction company awarded the contract to Gonzalez Construction Company, a certified DBE. By using the DBE, Mountain Gravel became entitled to a bonus payment of \$10,000 under the "subcontracting compensation clause."

According to court transcripts, Adarand charged that the use of race as a factor in awarding the contract violated its constitutional rights since there was no pattern of past discrimination in Colorado.

The majority-owned firm lost in both district and 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. However, it managed to get the attention of the U.S. Supreme Court who will begin hearing oral arguments in the case on January 17, 1995.

The Legal Defense Fund filed a brief on behalf of the federal subcontracting provision. Courtney Billups, chief of investigation and research for MBELDEF told reporters that four conservative Supreme Court justices were on record opposing any type of racial preference programs and "no one knows where the new appointees stand on the issue."



Brainerd Chairman, Eugene Baucum

"The fact that they are hearing this case is disturbing," Billups said. "I am speculating that they (Court) are aiming to restrict some

(Continued on page 10)

Youth violence: nation's top problem?

by William Reed

Nearly three in four teens believe that teenage violence and crime is a major problem in their lives in America today. A recent poll, commissioned by TV's *Rolanda* show showed that youth violence is exceeded only slightly by the number of young people citing drugs as the major problem in their daily lives.

In the poll, 73 percent of teens consider "teenage violence and crime" a major problem. Compared to a 53 percent rating among them regarding "violence in the schools," and 48 percent rating of "racial tensions," as being major problems for them. This poll, and other data, shows that parents and youth, in small towns and in big cities, should be alarmed because, "violence in America is reaching epidemic proportions."

Even U.S. government reports say: Every day in America, 14 children are killed by guns. In 1992, more than four victims of a violent crime was a juvenile aged 12 to 17. From 1986 to 1991, the homicide rate among youths aged 14 to 17 peaked 68 percent. And youth aged 12 to 17 and five times more likely to be crime victims than adults older than 35.

Rolanda's poll reports that, "Teen violence is taking its toll on students in towns of every size in this country. In fact, students in small cities, suburbs and rural communities—once considered safe havens from urban crime—are now twice as likely to carry weapons as students living in large cities." In addition, students who live in the West are twice as likely as those in the Northeast to know someone who has died violently. More than half of all students know someone in their neighborhood or



Wilson Murphy who was shot seven times by an unknown assailant discusses teen violence at a recent town meeting in NJ at New Jersey Network studios.

school who carries a weapon.

The poll, and daily law enforcement statistics, reveal that parents and school officials have a formidable challenge if they are to rid America's youth of this life-threatening problem. According to Bruce McKay, co-executive producer of *Rolanda*, "What this survey tells us is that teen violence is by no means exclusively an urban problem any longer. It has become widespread and now permeates every region of the country—big and small, urban, suburban and rural. Hopefully by focusing attention upon teen violence with this survey we'll be taking a positive step toward increasing greater awareness of a very critical problem."

While the general public may just be coming aware of these problems, this is a way of life with many youth. Violence is up in 38 percent of schools, reports the National League of Cities. Serious injuries have occurred in 48 percent of central city schools, in 19 percent of suburban schools, 24 percent of non-metro city schools and 21 percent of rural schools.

(Continued on page 4)

Bank disclosure act supported by New Jersey Businesses

by Paul Joseph

In New Jersey and many other states, banks and other lending institutions have often prided themselves as equal opportunity lenders.

However, African-American businesses still face the glass ceiling and many subtle discriminatory practices in obtaining loans, according to Wayne Smith, chairman of the Black Urban Alliance and the African-American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey.

A new bill proposed by Congressman Albert Wynn (D-Maryland) is challenging the banks to "put their money where their mouths are" in dealing with the African-American community.

The Small Business Lending Disclosure Act, like the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) of 1991, is asking banks to make public how much money they are in fact lending minority firms.

"The banking community talks a great deal about being interested in dealing with minority businesses," Wynn said, "but there is no basis for their performance."

"This legislation will enable us to get a much better handle on what's happening in the banking world in relation to black busi-

nesses."

Smith, representing several New Jersey businesses, testified on behalf of the bill in recent Congressional hearings.

In his statement, he told the congressional body that "discrimination in business lending is much more subtle, but it does exist."

He also explained the difficulties he faced in trying to remedy the problem. He said that after working with firms that were successful and unsuccessful in obtaining financing from banks, he decided to employ different tactics that would ensure more minority businesses obtaining a piece of the banking pie.

He reviewed the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), which provides funds for neighborhood rebuilding, and joined forces with New Jersey Citizen Action Committee, a coalition of community organization which have a good track record of obtaining low to moderate-housing loans under the CRA. He hoped that African-American businesses would be able to get relief from the CRA also.

However, the CRA does not require minority business lending. As a result, "many banks don't feel obligated to enter into an agreement with target goals for minority business," he said.

He stated that participating in negotiations with the various banks were difficult because "most banks have very little data on how much they lend minority firms."

He pledged full support for Wynn's proposal and said, "We believe the data will foster a look at what banks are in fact lending minority firms." He added, "We believe that financial institutions can do much better."

Sharon McGill, Wynn's press secretary, said the law is of vital importance to the black community. She said that it would work like the HMDA which was passed after several federal and independent investigation showed that African Americans' mortgage applications were rejected at a rate 10% that of their white counterparts regardless of the individual's income level or history.

"This bill is long overdue," Karen Holmar, executive assistant of the Black Business Council in Maryland, said. He stressed that not enough people in the community know about the bill and urged business, community and church leaders to write to their representatives in Congress to demand the passage of the law.

Hearings concerning the bill will resume in January when the 104th Congress reconvenes.

COMMENTARY

Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders: a liberal whose wings were clipped

by Eric H. Kearney

Former Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is an angel. In one respect, she is like the angel Abdiel from John Milton's *Paradise Lost*, an epic poem which tells of the creation of Lucifer and hell and the tempting of Adam and Eve. Specifically, Dr. Elders was a modern day Abdiel because she was the only one who spoke honestly in the midst of a mutiny against the public trust. Just as Abdiel's angelic friends left him to go literally to hell, she remained true to her liberal thoughts while the members of the Clinton Administration turned conservative.

Unfortunately she decided to share her ideas while they were still on her lips having not gained the maturity to fully function on her own. She spoke often. She spoke directly. She seemed confrontational at the wrong time and for the wrong reason.

In the world of Washington, DC the simple sort of honesty exhibited by Dr. Elders gets you fired. Frankly she benefited from the indecisiveness of President Bill Clinton. Had he been more focused, she surely would have, and should have been asked to resign much sooner.

The past two years with Dr. Elders have presented a feeding frenzy not paralleled since the last *Jaws* movie. The Republicans commentary on Dr. Elders has been physical, brutal and complete. But she invites abuse. For instance, in September, 1993 she advocated drug and alcohol education for children in kindergarten. I consider myself an

advocate for more education. However, I see no sense in subjecting young minds to problems with which they will have to deal later. Let the kids enjoy their few days of youthful bliss.

Another example occurred in December, 1993 where Dr. Elders was misquoted by many and criticized by many more. She said that the United States government should consider legalizing drugs because it had worked in other countries. Dr. Elders is right, this country should consider every option available to reduce the disastrous effects of drugs on the United States. Whether the United States should actually implement such a plan is another matter all together. But her proposal is not so radical, even the very right Republican William F. Buckley supports the idea. The media just jumped on her for even discussing the idea in public.

The media even chuckled gleefully when her son was arrested for possession of a controlled substance. She, like 99.9 percent of all African-American mothers, said that her son was not guilty in spite of the evidence. No reasonable person should fault her for her efforts to protect her son.

Dr. Elders is not a timid woman. Unlike others in Washington, Dr. Elders attacked the powerful Religious Right. She has advocated that they "get over" their "love affair with the fetus" when discussing abortion rights issues. She has indicated that conservative Christians are "un-Christian" and that they are "selling out" the children of the United States in the name of "religion." And then just to

(Continued on page 3)

Community Calendar

TUESDAY THRU SUNDAYS

ROSELLE—Ice Skating in Wannanco Park. Also family sessions are available. For more info call 908-298-7850.

MONTH OF JANUARY

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Library will sponsor a host of films each Wednesday throughout the month, at 1 p.m. For more info call 201-547-4546.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College is offering a one-day GED Practice Test. Students are able to take practice GED exams to see if they are ready for the actual exam. For more info call 201-714-2107.

JANUARY 5-FEBRUARY 23

JERSEY CITY—"How to Achieve Discipline: A New Workshop for Parents and Educators" will take place at Hudson County Community College. For more info call 201-714-2107.

THRU JANUARY 6

SUMMIT—There will be an exhibition of "Paintings from New Jersey Collections" at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts. For more info call 908-273-9121.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

NEWARK—Learn all about fish at the Mini Zoo program at the Newark Museum from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

JANUARY 8 THRU FEBRUARY 19

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College will offer an Intro. to French course on Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. For more info call 201-714-2107.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

WESTFIELD—A support group for people caring for elderly or chronically ill relatives meets at 8 p.m. at St. Helen's Church. For more info call 908-233-8757.

JANUARY 9, 23, 30

WESTFIELD—There will be a Nanny course for childcare providers at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more info call 908-544-9854.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

SUMMIT—New Jersey Center for Visual Arts.

Send Community Calendar events to

City News,

P.O. Box 1774 Plainfield, NJ 07061

at Arts is hosting a Visit NYC museums and galleries tour. The bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. from the Summer Pool. For more info call 908-273-9121.

NEW YORK—Lunchtime Lectures at 12:30 p.m. at the Fraunces Tavern Museum. For more info call 212-425-1778.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

NEWARK—There will be a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, featuring guest speaker Lawrence Ham at the Newark Public Library at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-645-7771.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library will host a "Sing in Praise of King" to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at 3 p.m. For more info call 908-556-6538.

MONTCLAIR—A quilt and beadwork demonstration will be presented at the Montclair Art Museum by Ina McNeil at 3 p.m. For more info call 201-746-5555.

JANUARY 17 THRU MARCH 7

PLAINFIELD—Literacy Volunteers of America is hosting two Winter Basic Literacy Tutoring Training Workshops on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info call 908-755-7998.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct a Admissions Workshops at its campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield. For more info call 908-709-7518.

NOW THRU JANUARY 20

MANHATTAN—The Multiple Sclerosis Society is launching a nationwide search for artists with multiple sclerosis for "The Creative Will: The 1995-96 exhibition of Rembrandt." For more info call 212-476-0442.

JANUARY 20, 21, 22

NEW YORK—Antiques at the Armory will be at the 26th St. Armory at various times. For more info call 201-384-0010.

NOW THRU JANUARY 23

MANHATTAN—The Museum of the City of New York is featuring a special exhibition entitled "A New York Holiday" Admission is free. For more info call 212-534-1672.



Morristown—This holiday season, hundreds of needy children found something fun in their stockings when Chemical Bank New Jersey and Princeton Bank and Trust Company donated hundreds of toys throughout Northern and Central New Jersey in the Bank's 29th Annual Holiday Toy Drive. The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) in Newark was among the recipients of the gifts presented to Northern New Jersey medical facilities and social service agencies. From Left: Clara Robertson, facilitator, Division of Youth and Family Services; and Ken Hall, senior vice president, Chemical Bank New Jersey surrounded by hundreds of toys.



NEWARK—Barbara Stewart of Newark recently received \$3,750 in grants from PSE&G for the Essex County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program in recognition of her outstanding volunteer efforts. Stewart, an auditing clerk in the accounting services department in Newark, has been a volunteer with CASA since 1987. CASA volunteers are appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Family Court to act as an advocate for children in voluntary foster care placement. CASA volunteers monitor cases and act as a liaison between all individuals. She was presented a \$3,000 quarterly award and a \$750 monthly award for use by CASA. "In my heart, I know that giving back to the community is very important," Stewart said. "I get a lot of spiritual and personal satisfaction from my volunteer activities."

POP to hold King observance

This year's event will include an awards ceremony which will recognize grassroots people in the community who have been struggling in the spirit of Martin Luther King.

A pre-program film, *Dr. Martin Luther King: Amazing Grace*, a documentary by Gil Noble, producer of ABC-TV's *Like It Is* will be shown from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. For further information call 201-643-7711.

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National News

by Robert N. Taylor

(Continued from page 1)
 (Coptic party presidential nomination is 1996.)

LONDON, ENGLAND

Black male life expectancy trails rest of nation

The latest government figures reveal that Americans are living longer lives, with one exception—black males. Black male life expectancy reached a peak in 1946 and has either declined or remained relatively the same since then. According to the report by the National Center for Health Statistics, white females continue to live the longest lives with a life expectancy at birth of 79.8 years. Black females come in second with a life expectancy of 73.5 years, followed by white males who expect to live an average of 73.2 years. But black males come in last with an average life expectancy of only 65 years.

—WASHINGTON, DC

Black wealth group launches membership drive

Declaring that "Every major problem facing black America could be eliminated or significantly reduced if there were more wealth in our communities," a national black economic empowerment group that week kicked off a major membership drive. The Black Club of America said it aims to increase its membership rolls by at least 50,000 people during 1995. Spokesman James Nathan explained, "We have a wealth of information, income enhancement projects and loan sources which are benefiting our current members and we simply want to expand our role in bettering the lives of black Americans." People interested in receiving free information about the Better Life Club can simply call 1-800-748-1821.

Commerce Secretary Ron Brown says he is staying

The nation's first black Commerce Secretary Ron Brown has denied rumors that he will leave his post in order to head up President Clinton's 1996 re-election bid. Brown called the rumors "Pure speculation." He said he had the best job in the world and had no plans to resign. —WASHINGTON, DC

Famed economist sees gold in the inner cities

Economist Michael E. Porter—author of the widely hailed cluster theory of global economic growth—thinks inner cities in America can be turned into a new version of economic boom towns. The 47-year-old Harvard Business School professor has launched a campaign to encourage ethnically diverse groups of top business school graduates to commit themselves to two years of working with and helping develop inner city businesses. Porter argues that even though the incomes of inner city residents are low, their concentration in relatively small areas near downtowns represent tremendous purchasing power. The Porter program will focus on retail and start-up businesses.

BOSTON, MASS.

NAACP angered by radio talk show

The state president of the NAACP has called for local chapters to protest a Denver radio talk show, calling it "black host." A new enemy in our community," James Tucker, NAACP conference president of Colorado, Montana and Wyoming says. "Desi Cortez of KOA, a radio host to the NAACP as the National Association for the Advancement of Clowns and Politicians, and is undermining the African American leadership of Denver, Colorado and the state," Tucker said. Tucker has said Cortez has blamed black women for being on welfare and saying they should stop asking for handouts. Tucker has said the comments were inappropriate, especially because blacks do not make up the majority of people receiving welfare. "It is clear to me that the station is not respectful of the African-American community," Tucker said.

—WASHINGTON, DC

Republicans' new welfare queen—Africa

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY), new chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, which oversees foreign aid, recently made it clear that he intends to treat foreign aid—especially aid to poor African countries—like welfare in this country.

He said, "The only way to break

the devastating cycle of dependency is to end foreign aid entitlement programs. . . If we're going to change welfare here at home, we certainly ought not to be using American tax dollars to foster that kind of dependency abroad."

The U.S. foreign aid budget in fiscal 1995 is \$13.7 billion, of which approximately \$1 billion goes to Af-

rican countries.

Senator McConnell is continuing in the lineage and perpetuating the legacy of former President Ronald Reagan. He has found himself a new "welfare queen"—Africa—with which to scapegoat blacks and mislead the American people about the nature of a program and a problem.

—JaxFax (the Rainbow Coalition's

newsletter) takes issue with those Republicans who are now advising a more narrowly-based "strategic approach" to the use of foreign aid in foreign policy and national security. America's foreign policy and national security interests are best served by the application of five basic principles:

- (1) respect and strengthen in international law
- (2) promote human rights
- (3) support self-determination
- (4) raise the living standards in the developing world, not lower our own
- (5) be consistent.

There is a need for reform in the use of foreign aid—e.g., currently one-third of it goes for military assistance, not for economic development or to meet human needs. But to cut it off entirely will be devastating.

More Somalia and Rwanda in the world, whether in Africa or elsewhere, will not serve the national interests of the United States. Economic and social underdevelopment anywhere is a threat to economic and social development everywhere. Hunger, malnutrition, poverty, overpopulation and environmental degradation will increasingly have an international impact.

Even looked at in the crudest of self-interest economic terms poor people do not provide a good market for what the developed world produces. Thus, development is always in our national interest. Prevention is better and less costly, morally and economically, than cure.

Africans are one-eighth of the human race. As the world's reigning superpower, and a nation so blessed, our interests are global. Instability and desperation anywhere is a threat to stability everywhere, whether Sarajevo or South Africa.

Africa is the only continent where the rape of its people and the ex-

ploration of its resources contributed mightily to the foundation of our nation.

Africa subsidized the U.S. The first foreign aid commodity was African people (i.e., the slave trade). Second, there was 250 years of labor without wages, another major subsidy of America by Africa. Third, was the exploitation of raw materials, from minerals to rubber. Now fully 12 percent of our population is of African descent.

We cannot have a Tanzania approach to Africa. We cannot simply ignore the past, with some scorched earth policy of history. Africa is fully capable of being a source of trade and economic growth to our country. We should relate to Africa with a policy, where necessary, that includes "aid to," "trade with," "investment in" and "development of" this great continent. Such a policy will be a mutually beneficial arrangement.

President Clinton has an enlightened view of Africa as copartners in development. Sen. McConnell should grow to share such an appreciation. He should be briefed on Africa's role in the world before hurling insults across the globe.

Approximately 10 percent of OPEC's oil comes from Nigeria. We are the number one trading partner with Nigeria. If that flow of oil is interrupted, it would be a factor in sending the world into an economic recession. Those who are now elevated to world leadership must have a world view to protect the interests of our country and stability in the world.

Aid to Africa is not the only program targeted by Republicans. They also plan to cut aid to the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. After legislation leaves Senator McConnell's subcommittee it must go before the full Foreign Affairs Committee chaired by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC).

Whitney Houston offends South Africans on recent tour

by William Reed

Even though she donated 1 million rand (\$300,000) to a children's museum in Johannesburg, some say pop music star Whitney Houston, proved to Nelson Mandela that some people, you just can't take home with you and expect them to act up to everybody's standards. According to numerous reports, Houston did not altogether gain the hearts of all South Africans when she toured there. Was it due to her being an "Ugly American abroad," or societal "misunderstandings" that caused the much publicized "Whitney"—The Concert for a New South Africa tour to end amid an avalanche of criticism of the singer from fans and the country's black media?

Most of the criticism leveled at the 30-year-old Houston was reportedly based on the belief that the superstar singer was really conducting the tour to promote a soft drink, of which she is a part owner and which has business rights to market South Africa. This capitalist initiative was perceived as "wrong" by many there who evidently thought she carried an entire entourage there for three weeks simply to "celebrate" the people of South Africa for free.

New Age Beverages, a black-owned company has been granted the Pepsi-Cola bottling and distribution franchise in South Africa. Investors in the \$15 million New Age Beverages project include actor Danny Glover, Orlando Magic basketball star Shaquille O'Neal, lawyer Johnnie Cochran, publisher Earl Graves and Mikeo T. K. Houston, whose "Bodyguard" album is the number one seller of the album, is believed to be the largest single shareholder.

Ironically as business sometimes is, the Johannesburg stadium where Houston's concert was held, and telecast via HBO, has an exclusive contract with Coke, which was the in-house beverage provided to concert-goers. People who persist in criticizing Houston for a little hype to help promote her business interest have to realize that her Pepsi-Cola product has an uphill climb against Coke in South Africa. Coke, which is headed up by an African American in Africa, Carl Ware, never actually pulled out during the political upheaval and currently controls 75 percent of the marketplace there.

Whitney made 10 million rand during her three-week tour, but also triggered boos and hisses from South African concert goers when during one of her performances when she referred to Nelson Mandela as a "stranded wife, Winnie Mandela," "Your queen," Houston's response to the crowd, "I don't care what you think," was described by the black media there as symbolic of her attitude toward ordinary South Africans. While Winnie Mandela still holds a lofty status among African Ameri-

cans, her overall role inside South Africa has diminished since Mr. Mandela separated from her.

During her stay there, Houston is said to have also made much of the fact that she played at the Mandela 75th birthday concert at 70,000 in Wembley Stadium in London, reportedly this angered locals even further, as they were aware of the details of the tour. It was her intention to donate a spare million to our underprivileged African children, she would do so without setting up this give-and-take joke, taking more from us than actually giving.

With all respect to the letter writer, we say to Whitney, "You keep on going girl." A fair exchange is no robbery, and the record shows that the five-time Grammy winner, along with scores of other wealthy blacks from inside South Africa and out, have made investments in that country that will help correct the unbalanced society that was inherited after apartheid. Armchair quarterbacks on the other side of the world's problem, they will always find something to criticize of people who step out to take actions and be in charge. Was it Whitney being an "Ugly American," or are there just plenty of blacks who act like crabs in the barrel, all around the world?

Of her South African stint, The Sowetan, the most influential black daily newspaper in South Africa, concluded, "Whitney is an attention-seeking prude who should not trust

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OPINION

EDITORIAL As I See It...

Remembering 1994

Certainly, a cold chill must run down your back when you think about the bizarre events which shook the nation and the world in the past year. Not even the best story lines on the hottest daytime drama come close to the drama that unfolded this past year.

The year started and ended with some of the most horrifying unforgettable events that puzzled the nation's moral fiber.

Earlier this year, the attack of Olympic skater Nancy Kerrigan involving rival Tonya Harding and her husband gripped the nation. More recently, a ravishing innocent snuffed the life of a mother and her six children in Orange.

Somewhere in between, a severe winter crippled the Eastern coast with a flood left many homeless in the Midwest. And in California, an earthquake caused nearly \$20 million in damages with 40 people dead.

There was the murder of Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman and the indictment of football star O.J. Simpson. A young mother in Union, S.C., Susan Smith, drowned her two young children and claimed that a black man had abducted them. After days of searching, she confessed to the crime. Human carnage and atrocities seemed throughout the global village. This included: Haiti, Cuba, Bosnia, Somalia and Rwanda.

Nelson Mandela's election to the presidency of South Africa and the Jordan-Israel peace accords were the only bright spots of the year. Meanwhile, in the nation, Americans crying for tax relief, and tougher crime measures, voted for a Democratic Congress. Democrats took back Congress with a Republican majority for the first time in 40 years.

What will '95 bring? Only time can tell.

Dr. King's dreams vs. Republican reality

by Julian K. Robinson

As 1994 draws to a close, we can expect to hear and read more and more about Governor Whitman's efforts in touting and promoting ethnic, racial, religious and gender diversity. The early December launching of her "Many Faces-One Family" initiative would seem to predict a long winter of slick self-serving headlines and sound-bites ad nauseum by Whitman and her aides as they point toward a "diversity summit" in the spring of 1995.

The fact that the program, aptly dubbed by *Star-Ledger* columnist Ivette Mendez as "all smiles, little substance" is the brainchild of a public relations plan leads me to suspect the Governor's less-than-pure hidden political agenda. Not the least of the Whitman motivation, in this observer's view, flows directly from her desire to divert the attention and focus of the state's minority population away from the apparent strongly anti-minority posture of her beloved Republican Party and most of its national leaders. I expect the situation will become thoroughly sickening with the approach of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s January birthday and the celebration of African-American history month later. Any day now, look for the Governor's small cadre of black mercenaries to begin scurrying about the state with the message that New Jersey black folk are about to reach the promised land.

Periodically, regional meetings of community leaders will be treated to hours of meaningless rhetoric and seemingly endless Whitman-led hand-holding choruses of "We Shall Overcome."

Meanwhile, if corpses do indeed fall over in the grave, I suspect that Dr. King's is hardly resting easily in his. Given the high level of optimism of King's hopes and dreams of the sixties, I can imagine his shocked amazement were he able to return among us today and

spend an hour or two reviewing a sample of recent local and national news stories. He would most assuredly be unable to understand or accept our obvious regression as a nation during his 26-year absence. He would, I am also certain, become anxious to cut short his visit as he discovers the shocking facts and circumstances in the wake of November's mid-term election results.

In Washington... that, South Carolina's Republican Strom Thurmond is still alive and still a powerful member of the U.S. Senate. And that Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas recently attended Thurmond's 92nd birthday party.

that, North Carolina's Jesse Helms, also a U.S. Senator and Republican veteran, will shortly become chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, despite his recent disgraced comments about President Clinton, as well as his past public support of South Africa's racist system of apartheid.

that, under the leadership of soon-to-be Speaker of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, House Republicans plan to begin immediately hacking away at funding for programs which vitally affect the lives of the elderly, the sick, the poor and the very young. Gingrich's much-ballyhooed 10-point "contract with America," representing a sort of blueprint for Republican legislative plans and reforms, seems totally in keeping with recent GOP policy of ignoring the concerns and needs of minorities.

that, as if to confirm his declaration of war on African-American and Latino interests, Gingrich announced in early December his plan to eliminate funding for the Congressional Black Caucus, the Latino Caucus and 26 other legislative service organizations...a move seen clearly by many as an effort to short circuit the increasing power of minorities.

that, including Gingrich, a Georgian, and Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, a Kansan, most of the key legislative leadership posts in the House and Senate will, after January, be filled by white males from deep

by Connie Woodruff

The story of Louis M. Turco, Newark East Ward Democratic Party leader, "kingmaker" and one time "golden boy" of politics in the city's Ironbound section, is a saga of political survival.

Turco was one of the youngest men in Essex County to be elected municipal party chairman when he followed his chairmanship as a young Democratic leader to take over the helm of East Ward Democratic chairman more than 30 years ago.

Except for a brief period when he served time for tax evasion and his former wife succeeded him in the chair, an office he resigned shortly after his release, Turco's reign over local ward politics never missed a beat.

This youth he was a rough and tumble kid from the Ironbound, who was bright and articulate enough to

pursue law as a career and was smart enough to use his legal credentials to catapult him into a career as a politician.

After an appointment to fill an unexpired term of a former mentor in the Newark City Council, Turco was re-elected the same year in a special election and subsequently re-elected in May of 1970 with the highest vote total ever for a council member in the East Ward.

He had all the attributes a successful politician needed; good looks, a boyish charm, a persuasive approach to friend and foe alike and an eagerness and ability to get things done when one's political clock mattered.

Lou Turco was at the height of his political career at the time of change in Newark City government: at a time when a federal investigation toppled many of his friends, and African Americans like former Mayor Ken Gibson swept into office on the wings of a black rebellion that gave unprecedented power to Newark's people of color.

For some 30 years, Turco beat back attempts to elect an African American in the East Ward to the city council, despite the fact that he depended on that segment of the population to produce overwhelming majorities for Democrats who ran for local, county, state and federal offices.

Unlike other politicians who faded into oblivion after serving jail time, after his six-month sentence in federal prison, Turco, the unimpaired "golden boy," returned home in a blaze of glory and was given a "welcome home" by former council colleagues in the City Hall.

Even as he fought to recover from Lymphoma this year, a quiet controversy raged between East Ward Democrats as to who would succeed him as ex party chairman.

council chambers.

He was re-elected as East Ward party chairman and given several jobs in the city and county. He was a native son, a kid from the "hood" who had graduated from East Side high who had earned honors from Rutgers University and Rutgers Law School and who was considered one of the state's most astute politicians by the older guys who felt compelled to look out for him and his young family.

There were few political affairs in Newark and in the county that Turco did not attend. He was a familiar figure always surrounded by the political movers and shakers. He understood the power and prestige of politics and how to use it to reward friends and punish enemies.

Over the years, he was loved and loathed by a succession of political leaders and activists. He was a disbarred attorney, and as such, could not be appointed to municipal posts he would have preferred. But friends at the county level stepped into the breach and gave him jobs as secretary to the Essex County Planning Board and legislative assistant for the board of freeholders.

But when a move was made to his appointment as deputy clerk to the board of freeholders, all hell broke out between those who wanted to see him in a better political position and those who suddenly felt threatened by his potential return to visible power.

One politico wanted to name that

person before Turco's demise while another equally prominent ward leader demanded the man be given the courtesy of remaining in office until he succumbed from his incurable ailment.

It was ironic that when he was council president in the late 1960s, early 1970s Lou Turco initiated the idea of establishing a satellite office in the East Ward and helped to establish DARE, a nation-wide drug awareness program and was himself arrested on the Garden State Parkway and charged with possession of cocaine.

Lou Turco was entombed in Tom's River as many of his political friends in Essex were preparing to celebrate and welcome 1995 and another year of political change.

While mourning sentiments of the value of his political wisdom, his achievements and his service to people, many were secretly pondering how they could push their individual choices for the new East Ward chairman.

The setting was perfect. It was the swiftest of ceremonies of newly elected county officials on New Year's Day.

The three top officials: Essex County Exec, Jim Treffinger, Sheriff Anthony Fontana and Register Carole Graves are people Turco had interacted with over a period of many years. He made a difference for them in the East Ward, being most helpful to Fontana and Graves.

But no matter, Louis M. Turco was the ultimate politician for most of his life and no one would understand better than he the agony of the political mind-set where out of sight, out of mind is the norm. He would be among the first to say, "It's not personal," it's politics.

Taking control to ensure our generation's future

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent



As we enter the new year, we should do it with strength from our unquestionable ability to overcome adversity against all odds. We face many challenges in the new year, but we can, and must work together in order to defend ourselves against those forces whose aim is to annihilate and destroy us as a people.

In the new age of Gingrich/Dole/Rush/Helms, we can clearly see the need of the past. Every one of substantial or proposed gains in this country away from the doctrines that feed on intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, exclusion, oppression, etc. have been met with fierce resistance and defiance by those in power who goals are to maintain the status quo and to uphold and maintain the doctrine of white supremacy.

One hundred years ago, throughout the entire year of 1895, major events occurred that clearly signaled the establishment and birth of Jim Crow that would usher in a new repressive trend adversely affecting African Americans for many, many years.

As we get ready to take on the

Gingrich/Dole Congress, we should study and remember the lessons from the past in order not to repeat them again. Specially, we should be prepared to challenge and fight against the attacks on children, women, oppressed nationalities, the elderly etc. This isn't the time to be meek and docile, or afraid to speak out against those who would use the weakest amongst us as scapegoats for society's ills and problems.

In 1895, when Booker T. Washington delivered his "Atlanta Compromise" address, he undoubtedly meant well, but unfortunately, whites took this as a signal that African Americans would meekly submit to them and the domination.

Economic and political repression increased, and in 1895 alone, over 113 African Americans were reportedly lynched. Black laborers were attacked across this country in various labor disputes and the Supreme Court began to set the stage for their landmark *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision in 1896.

In 1995, the stage is being set to turn back the clock once again. The mental political, social and economic gains made during the 1960's and 70's are being systematically and carefully eroded. Efforts to increase representation among various oppressed nationalities are being subjected to fierce attacks as landmark Civil Rights legislation is being challenged and dragged through the courts.

In the popular racist rhetoric being

used today, justifications and arguments to continue with the historic doctrine of unfair and unequal treatment for all except white males, are being promoted and put forth by individuals such as right wing conservative fanatic Rush Limbaugh. He spews the same old racist and xenophobic rhetoric that has historically been used to justify these practices.

The air waves and print media are filled with these new neo-fascists, who tell white America what it wants to hear, not what it needs to hear.

We can not afford to give out mixed messages in 1995. We can't afford to "cast down our buckers" as was advocated by Booker T. Washington in 1895. Yes, he was right in describing African Americans as "the most patient, faithful, law-abiding, and unresentful people that the world has seen."

And, we certainly did, till the fields, clear the forest, build the railroads and cities of this country. It is because of these facts and realities, that we must be determined to fight back and expose those forces who would deny us the rights guaranteed to us under the constitution.

In 1995, we must take full responsibility for ensuring that our children and future generations do not have to wait another 100 years for the benefits of our labor and suffering to be realized once and for all.

CITY NEWS



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Youth violence

(Continued from page 1)

*Twenty-one percent of high school students say they know someone who has died violently. Nine percent of big city teens carry weapons and 51 percent of students say they know someone (a fellow teen or adult) in their neighborhood or school who carries a weapon, be it a knife, gun or other type. Also, violence begets violence and can be traced. According to the survey, more than one in four youth (28 percent) who have carried a weapon report that there has been violence in their homes. African American's alarms should ring up because while violence among youth is widespread, it is particularly

common among boys, high school and minority students.

Many are forming groups to help combat youth violence. Public broadcasters, along with foundations and community organizations, have formed the "Act Against Violence" media campaign. Among the features of the program is a four-hour program, *What Can We Do About Violence?* *Bill Moyers Special*, which airs on the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) this month.

The program presents reports on the growing number of people

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Kids Kalendar

NEWARK—A Saturday Youth program began at Essex County College, offering courses in computer graphics, tennis, reading, writing, math, etiquette, public speaking, storytelling, youth as entrepreneurs, jazz, dance, jazzercise and piano. To register call 201-877-3416. For more info or a brochure call 201-877-3438.

JANUARY 7 AND 8

TRENTON—New Jersey State Museum will have mini-exhibit, shows, booths, lectures demonstrations and more. For more info call 609-292-6508.

JANUARY 7, 14, 21, 28

NORTH BRANCH—There will be a "Magic in the Sky" Planetarium Rantian Community College. For more info call 908-218-6805.

JANUARY 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29

NEWARK—The Newark Museum will present two shows at 1 and 2 p.m. on an entitled The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket. For more info call 201-596-6550.

JANUARY 14

CRANFORD—The Little Theater of the Deal will perform "The Story Bag" at Hillside Avenue School at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. For ticket info call 908-232-3236.

JANUARY 14 AND 15

EDISON—Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs will be at Mid Essex County College. Show times are 1 and 2:30 p.m. For more info call 908-996-2566.

Send Kids Kalendar events to:
City News,
P.O. BOX 1774,
PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060

Firefighters create unique tutoring program

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Board of Education joined with the East Orange Fire Department and members of the National Honor Society to form a unique tutoring program designed to help students living in Arcadian Gardens, the city's only federal housing complex.

The "Arcadian Gardens Tutoring Program" was created by East Orange Board of Education President Ernestine Harris in an effort to meet one of the "most important needs" of the young people living at Arcadian.

The tutoring program will be conducted every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and will take place at Clifford J. Scott, and East Orange High Schools. Tutors will be members of the National Honor Society and East Orange Fire Department, members of Local 23 of the Firemen's Benevolent Association (FMB) and F.L.A.M.E.

"We decided to do something different—take the children out of their environment and take them to the high school/academic environment," Harris said.

President of the FMB, Charles Salley said, "Working with students as role models and tutors is a great way of giving back to the community. By showing the children we care, it is a catalyst for us to do more, for each other especially our youth."

Dr. Stephen Cowan, principal of East Orange High School said, "I am very proud of Tammy Bynum, the

president of the National Honor Society at East Orange High School." He continued, "I commend her for her leadership as well as the others. All high school students should have some sense of civic responsibility. We are all responsible for each other and especially our children."

Ms. Irene Nichols, principal of Clifford J. Scott High School said, "I commend Sarla Porter, president of the National Honor Society at Scott High School." She said, "Many of the students at Scott High School feel a need and want to do something to help prepare youngsters for tomorrow. In addition, it is extremely important to expose youth to this high school environment, Ms. Nichols added."

The Arcadian Gardens Tutoring Program (AGTP) begins after the Christmas holiday and is open to children between the ages of 6 and 12 years old. The tutoring takes place between the hours of 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Though the program is designed for the children of Arcadian Gardens, it is also open to other interested youth.

"I have always encouraged private/public partnerships that benefit not only our community, but a particular, our children," Mayor Cooper said. "The Fire Department, the Board of Education and especially the students of Clifford J. Scott and East Orange High Schools, have a vision to help others and programs like the Arcadian Gardens Tutoring Program are a great beginning."

Newark Night at Walt Disney's World On Ice



The lovely Belle meets new friends—in an exciting new version of a tale as old as time, Walt Disney's World On Ice—Beauty and the Beast.

RUTHERFORD—The "Newark Night" at the Walt Disney's World On Ice, will be held Wednesday, January 25, at 7 p.m. at the Brendan Byrne Meadowlands Arena.

Tickets for the ice show are regularly \$18.50, 15.50 and 12.50. But the "Newark Night" admission for all seats is only \$7.50 with "special courtesy" discount coupons. The coupons are available in the Recreation and Cultural Affairs office (Room

B-23, Newark City Hall) and must be redeemed at the Meadowlands box office prior to the night of the show.

Upon payment at the box office, the coupons can be exchanged for any reserved seat available.

Mayor Sharpe James said, "The annual, 'Newark Night' show is truly a great tradition for the Meadowlands Arena and the Gateway City. The performance is very positive; it is a viable

alternative to the social ills threatening our children in Newark and across the country."

As Mayor, I encourage citizens to take advantage of this affordable and entertaining experience. I know the entire family will enjoy this wholesome, worthwhile show."

For more information, please contact the Newark DORCA office at 201-733-6454.

Union County College to host career preparation workshop

CRANFORD—Union County College's Industry-Business Institute will play host to 120 public and private high school students, and 15 of their educators from throughout Union County and vicinity in a career preparation workshop on Thursday, January 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Roy W. Smith Theater, Campus Center, Cranford Campus.

The program, sponsored by Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN), is a project of the Plainfield/North Plainfield and Summit YWCAs. It will be made possible through the volunteer efforts of facilitators representing 10 companies: Sea-Land

Service, Inc., All-State Legal Supply Co., United National Bank, Hoechst Celanese Corp., Wellington Resources Group, Best Foods, Alcan Building Products, Colgate Palmolive Co., Ortho Biotech, Inc., and Johnson & Johnson.

The purpose of the event is to help high school students understand the career options available to them and help them prepare themselves for their job search. They will learn to assess their career interests, how to look for a job, interviewing tips, and skills for succeeding in the workplace.

For the past 16 years, TWIN has been conducting career education

programs for students and educators. The high school job preparation program is the organization's first such effort, which is geared towards prospective high school graduates who plan to enter the workforce directly upon completion of their secondary school studies.

For further information, call Jane Korba at 908-736-3836, or Hank Proport at 908-709-7114.

The Newark Museum presents Cosmic Questions contest

NEWARK—The Newark Museum Dreyfus Planetarium is proud to announce a unique contest for children ages five to twelve years old. The Planetarium staff is producing a new program called *Cosmic Questions* which will feature questions asked by audiences. If the submitted question is chosen as one of ten winners, the question will be photographed, put on a slide and appear in the show.

The answers to these cosmic questions will be presented using slides, video, and special effects under the starry skies of the Planetarium dome.

To enter the contest, children should clearly print their question on a piece of white paper along with their full name and address at the top left corner of the paper. There is only one question per entry. Questions must be received before January 17, 1995. Mail questions to: COSMIC QUESTIONS, Dreyfus Planetarium, The

Newark Museum 49 Washington Street, P.O. Box 540 Newark, NJ 07101-0540.

Prizes for contest winners include an invitation to the private premiere of *Cosmic Questions* with their families, starbooks, astronomy books, and free tickets to the Planetarium. The *Cosmic Questions* contest has been developed to interest young children in science and offer them an opportunity to see their names "up in lights."

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Dr. Horton students honor Newark fire fighters

NEWARK—The student council at Dr. William H. Horton School held an appreciation ceremony to honor the firemen of Truck Company #7, who captured and detained a would-be carjacker near their school.

The students visited the fire station, located at North Sixth Street and Park Avenue, to present a certificate of "Positive Community Action" to each of the four firemen, who participated in the capture.

In the incident that took place last month, Officer Ismael Rodriguez of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, was accosted by a carjacker near the intersection of Park Avenue and North 6th Street.

The carjacker demanded Rodriguez turn over his vehicle. When Rodriguez identified himself as a sheriff's officer and reached for his service revolver the assailant fled the scene.

Acting Fire Captain Sam Papalardo, along with fire fighters Anthony Decca, John Olanah and Ed Pimental, who witnessed the attempt-

ed carjacking in progress, chased and captured the man in the Kentucky Fried Chicken Restaurant parking lot across from the school.

Shekeitha Jeffries, student council president at Dr. Horton School said that the student body was pleased with the swift actions of the firefighters. "We all feel a lot safer knowing that they (the fire fighters) are a part of our community," Jeffries said.

School principal William Demetroulakis also commended the firemen and said that he is pleased that the students came up with the idea to honor them.

"It is good for our students to have positive images and to know that they can be safe within their community," he said.

The certificates were presented to the fire fighters by Jessica Rodriguez, a sixth grade student at Dr. Horton, who is also the daughter of Officer Ismael Rodriguez, the would-be victim. North Ward Councilman Anthony Carrino, who also participated in the ceremony,

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Newark's schools received major repairs

NEWARK—The Newark Board of Education, Office of Design and Construction, has completed 109 projects during the summer totaling nearly \$17 million. The district spent an excess of \$36 million in overall projects for fiscal year 1993-94.

Arts High School students occupy the COED Skills Center while construction and renovation of the facility on Martin L. King Jr. Boulevard is underway. COED Skills received a face-lift in order to accommodate the Arts High students.

Roof repairs and replacements are complete at the following schools: Alexander Street, William Brown Academy, George W. Carver, Cleveland, Eighteenth Avenue, Fifteenth Avenue, Dr. William Horton, Maple Avenue, Mount Vernon, Speedway

Avenue and Harriet Tubman.

Mr. James Peter Kokkalis, R.A., N.J.P.E. INCARAB, director of Design and Construction said, "Because the majority of Newark's school buildings average 70-100 years, repairs and renovations are ongoing."

"Any conditions that may endanger our students, staff or any improvement in our facilities that effects progress in student achievement receives top priority," he said.

Other completed projects include wall repairs, noise abatement and window replacements, interior painting, handicapped access, auditorium seating, masonry, electrical, shop ventilation, fire detection systems, intercoms, boiler or burner conversions, gym bleachers, plumbing, asbestos removals and drapery cleaning or replacements.

Religious Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
PLAINFIELD—The 15th Anniversary of Dr. William G. Howard as pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church will be observed at 7:30 p.m. For more info call Silvia Miller at 908-561-2028.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
SCOTCH PLAINS—The 15th Anniversary of the Rev. William G. Howard will be held at Snuffy's Pizzeria Renaissance. Guest speaker will be Dr. Calvin G. Butts. For more info call Silvia Miller at 908-561-2028.

**Send Religious Calendar events to City News
PO Box 1774,
Plainfield, NJ 07061**

TIPS TO BE FIT

Keeping in shape during and after the holidays

by Vince & Yolanda

Here are a few helpful tips on how not to overindulge during the holidays. That way, you won't have anything to regret afterwards.

I've been working out, watching what I eat and losing weight. With the holiday season how can I keep it off? Help!

Sharon M. Lindewald, NJ

Sharon, it's very difficult to get in shape or stay in shape with all the holiday eating. The foods we eat during this time of year are high in calories, fat and cholesterol. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's the average person can gain 15 to 30 pounds.

However, we can get through these holidays without gaining a lot of unwanted pounds.

- Try a good brisk half hour walk before you go to eat your holiday meal so you won't be famished and get tempted to over indulge.
- Be the last at the buffet line, you'll be less tempted to have seconds.
- Head for the vegetable first if they're not fried or in a heavy sauce they'll be the food lowest in calories fat and cholesterol.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages (they are full of empty calories) and if you do drink, limit your in-

- take to one or two.
- Take your time when you eat and practice leaving food on your plate rather than cleaning it.
- Remember, the holidays will come and go but that extra weight will linger long afterwards.

"We're going on vacation in a few weeks and I still want to eat right. I need some food for thought."

Sheila H. Camden, NJ

There is no reason you shouldn't be able to maintain a good diet while you're away if you're willing to make a few little sacrifices. While on vacation the main thing you want to remember is, eating foods high in fat tend to make you fat, even on vacation.

- Avoid the same foods you normally avoid, like those cooked in rich sauces or cheeses. Ice cream and butter are also on the forbidden food list. It's okay to sample one or two rich foods but, just sample them.
- The best foods for meals on the go are complex carbohydrates. These include pasta, whole grain breads, vegetables and fruits. Try to eat lean meats and make sure they are baked or broiled.
- If you're going to walk outside this winter there are some winter rules you should follow. Start getting used to the weather now.
- It's always good to drink fluids

- before and after your outdoor workout. If you're going to be out side more than 45 minutes it's good to bring something to drink during your workout.
- Don't wear clothes that restrict your circulation. Wear loose fitting clothes in layers. You can wear spandex under sweat pants and leg warmers around your ankle to keep the lower leg warm and absorb shock.
- Don't forget your knitted gloves.

- You can lose up to 40 percent of your body heat if your head is not covered so wear a hat and ear muffs. In extremely cold weather try to cover as much as possible.
- There's no law that says you can't warm-up and cool down inside. Once you've got your blood pumping indoors, those first few steps outside won't feel as cold.

- Run into the wind on your way out and with the wind on your way home, this will decrease the wind chill factor when you're sweating the most.
- Avoid running in open areas. Buildings can help block chilling winds. Remember it can be too cold outside to exercise.

Vince and Yolanda are Philadelphia-based fitness experts.

DORCA to hold King commemoration

NEWARK—The City of Newark's Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DORCA), in collaboration with the Newark Museum and the Newark Public Library, will present the seventh annual, "Sing in Praise of King," a yearly tribute to the late, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

The event will be held on Sunday, January 15, at 3 p.m. at Newark's Bethany Baptist Church, featuring Dr. Alvin Poussaint, psychologist, educator and author as the keynote speaker.

Formerly a consultant on the long-running hit series, *The Cosby Show*, Dr. Poussaint will address Dr. King's legacy and how it relates to young people today.

According to Celeste Bateman, DORCA cultural supervisor, "Rev. King was an extraordinary leader in the Civil Rights movement. He didn't start the 'movement,' but he took the reins and went to face vicious attacks and even jail. How many of us today would have the intestinal fortitude and tenacity to endure what Dr. King and his followers and supporters endured?"

"Newark was one of the last places that Dr. King visited before his untimely death," Mayor James added, "and we are proud to be a part of his continuing legacy. I encourage all Newark citizens, young and old, to come out and enjoy this great experience."

For additional information, please contact the Newark DORCA office at 201-733-6454.

Union County awarded recreational grant for disabled

ELIZABETH—The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders have announced that the County's Division of Parks and Recreation is the recipient of a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs which will underwrite recreational activities especially for people with disabilities.

The \$9,000 Recreational Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities grant will supplement the County's ongoing efforts. Programs being planned for 1995 include crafts, golf, post-stroke exercise classes, volleyball and square dancing.

Funds will also be used by the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs to present a conference entitled, "Arts Across the Ages: The Year of Access." The focus of the conference will be on encouraging senior adult involvement in recreational artistic activities.

"Union County has a long-standing commitment to providing recreational opportunities to all County residents," stated Freeholder Edwin Force, Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. "While our goal is to have all our programs accessible to all members of the public, we recognize that there are members of our community who need or desire activities designed especially for people with special needs. This grant will enable us to offer these activities."

A bi-monthly listing of upcoming activities is available for free-of-charge by calling the Division of Parks and Recreation at 908-527-4900.

DID YOU KNOW?

by Robert N. Taylor

...that according to the National Health and Social Life Survey on American sex practices, the median number of sex partners over a lifetime is six for men and two for women. However, one man reported having sex with 1,016 different women during his life and one woman reported 1,009 different male partners.

...that Asian-Americans have now replaced whites as the racial group with the highest median household income. According to a Census Bureau report released last week the median income for Asian households stands at \$38,347 a year while white median household income stands at \$23,060. Hispanics placed third with \$22,886 and blacks came in last with a median household income of \$19,532.

...that moderate consumption of alcohol can reduce your risk of heart attack. A new study published recently in the Journal of the American Medical Association suggests that this reason for this is due to the fact that alcohol thins the blood and thus prevents blood clots from forming. "Moderate" is generally defined as not more than two to three drinks a day.

...that the rich are getting richer. Indeed, they are getting a lot richer. According to the Tax Foundation, in 1982 the top 1 percent of the population earned 8.9 percent of the nation's total adjusted gross income. But in 1992 the top one percent's share of total income had shot up to 14.2 percent. In dollar terms this means that the top 1 percent raked in \$524 billion.

...that (meanwhile) the poor are getting poorer. According to the Tax Foundation, in 1982 the bottom 50 percent of the population earned 17.7 percent of total adjusted gross income. But in 1992 that percentage had fallen to 14.9 percent. This means that the top 1 percent of the population earns almost as much money as the bottom 50 percent.

...that there is a great financial benefit to being married. A new Census Bureau study finds that black households in which both a man and woman are present have a median income which is 80 percent of that for white households. But black, single mother households have a median income which is only 50 percent of that for white households. However, the number of single-mother households is both increasing and getting poorer over time.



Another View

The Public Affairs Program for the African American Community

Karen Smyles
Host



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The people at UCC really care. There are 80 programs to choose from and even classes to help prepare students for college level work. The tuition is affordable and more than half the students get some type of financial aid. With three locations, no one in Union County is more than 10 minutes from a campus. And classes are offered at night and on weekends.

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Spring Semester starts January 18.



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Billboard

JANUARY 2-7

NEW YORK—Planet Kirk Lightsey and bass player Cecil McBee live at Zino Bar and Restaurant. For more info, call 212-924-5192.

JANUARY 10

NEW YORK—Cliffon Davis of "Amen" will appear at Lincoln Center's Off Stage Connection Series at 8 p.m. For more info, call 212-875-5440. For tickets call 212-721-6500.

JANUARY 14 AND 15

POCONO—There will be a Festival of local The Mountain Laurel Resort Hotel and Golf Club with plenty of activities. For more info call 1-800-456-8921.

JANUARY 15

WEST ORANGE—Come mingle at The Gate House at 466 Prospect Ave. with Sings Faces at 8 p.m. (Free Buffet) For more info, call 201-669-1114.

JANUARY 30

ATLANTIC CITY—Sinbad live at The Grand Resorts at 8 and 11 p.m. For more info, call 609-340-2600.

FEBRUARY 1 THRU APRIL 30

MORRISTOWN—Visit the Star Trek Federation Science at the Star Trek Museum. For more info, call 201-538-0454.

NOW THRU FEBRUARY 18

JERSEY CITY—There will be an art exhibition entitled "Shango Change: An Institution by Ben Jones" honoring the African Yoruba god, Shango and St. Barbara at the Jersey City Museum from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. For more info, call 201-547-5379.

NOW THRU MARCH 5

MONTCLAIR—An art exhibition entitled "Emma Amos: Changing the Subject," a collection of women artists' work, will be on display at the Montclair Art Museum. For more info, call 201-746-5555.

Send Billboard Calendar events to City News
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ
07061

The Scoop

by Janice Malone

Her mother is international superstar Diana Ross and her father is Berry Gordy, Jr., founder of one of the most successful record companies in the history of music. So naturally, people assume that 23-year-old Rhonda Ross is a "Black American Princess" just waiting to happen. Nothing could be further from the truth. Like her famous parents, Rhonda is also blazing the trail of a music career but she's decided to follow her own yellow brick road as to how she will find stardom. Last year Rhonda graduated with honors from Brown University, with a degree in African American Studies. She's currently a full time jazz singer who performs at various jazz clubs throughout New York City. She's managing her own career and has her own band. Two of her band members include her boyfriend of one year Rodney Kendrick, and the brother of Broadway star Melba Moore. The Scoop recently talked with Rhonda in a very revealing and candid interview. Diana Ross fans are in for many pleasant surprises.

THE SCOOP: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR FATHER'S NEW AUTOBIOGRAPHY "TO BELOVED"?

RHONDA: I love it. I was sent the book's galley before it was released. I have two favorite parts of the book. I loved reading about his life before he started Motown. I didn't know the full details about when he was a boxer, worked in a car factory and served in the Korean War. Reading about all this was just so much fun for me to know. My second favorite part of his book is the first night he was with my mother. I won't reveal the details, you'll have to read the book! We were together to watch him on "The Barbara Walters Special" and then I saw him again when he was here in New York for a book signing.

THE SCOOP: HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW THAT BERRY GORDY IS YOUR BIOLOGICAL FATHER?

RHONDA: My mother told me herself when I was 13. She just sat me down one day and basically said there was something that she should've told me a long time ago but she didn't know how to tell me. Initially, it hit me like a ton of bricks. Of course it was a shock because it changed my reality. I let the news digest for a while. And then it became exciting and exploratory. I realized I now had lots of brothers and sisters, cousins, nieces and nephews! His whole family immediately embraced me. It was great.

THE SCOOP: OVER THE YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN MANY AUTHORS WHO HAVE SAID SOME UNKIND THINGS ABOUT YOUR MOTHER. WHAT DOES SHE THINK ABOUT THESE BOOKS?

RHONDA: Most of the time she's ignored them. I know that book publishers have encouraged some of these authors to intentionally say something mean about her just to sell more books. I don't forgive them for this because these people are trying to make money at the expense of people I love. Some of the lies in these books have come out of nowhere and they've been so frequent. I've never seen mom get angry about them but I have seen her cry. There have been certain books. I won't say which, that have hurt her feelings because some of these people were her friends.

THE SCOOP: WHAT WOULD DIANA ROSS FANS BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT HER?

RHONDA: To know that she's a great cook. She doesn't get to cook often but when she does it's fantastic. I remember when we were little girls we'd often be in bed with mom watching TV, while eating some of her home-cooked chicken wings. And my mother can really barbecue—yes, barbecue. Don't look surprised. After all, she hasn't been a superstar all of her life! She grew up in the Brewster Housing Projects. She also makes this wonderful antipasta dish. And she's great at making gumbo, fish stews, and soups from leftovers. My mother can sew too. She knows how to relax hair, cut it, plait it and do cornrows. She went to beauty school for awhile after high school. I recently started wearing my hair in dreadlocks, which she loves. One day she asked could she come over and twist my dreads for me!

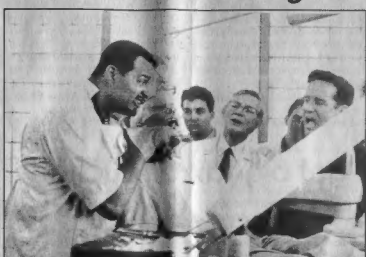
THE SCOOP: WHAT'S THE SCARIEST MOMENT YOU'VE EVER HAD?

RHONDA: One time was when my mom was filming "The Wiz" movie. Her corneas were accidentally burned from the movie lights. The doctors were afraid she would've gone blind. It really, really scared me. I was frightened again right before my grandmother died of breast cancer. I watched her get sicker and sicker. It was so scary and sad watching her forget who we were.

THE SCOOP IS PRESENTED BY:

The National Alliance of Postal & Federal Employees: 1628 11th St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001: 202-939-6325.

Sinbad stars in new movie Houseguest



Comedy and chaos result when Kevin Franklin (Sinbad, left), masquerades as a famous oral surgeon and is coaxed into demonstrating his nonexistent skills on Gary Young's (Phil Hartman, right) boss Mr. Pike (Mason Adams, in chair), in Hollywood Pictures' new comedy Houseguest.

Ever since Kevin Franklin (Sinbad) was a child he's been obsessed with a quest for financial freedom. Determined to parlay his poverty into prosperity and upgrade his bank balance from zero to millions, Kevin has tried every get-rich-quick, fortune-hunting scheme ever devised and as a result he's now \$50,000 in debt to loan sharks. And when a pair of hit men come to collect for their mob boss, it appears the only thing Kevin can bank on is a deficit of physical health.

In a last-ditch effort to evade the inevitable, Kevin heads for the airport with the goons yapping at his heels. There, he runs into the next best thing to the Prize Patrol: Gary Young (Phil Hartman), who's meeting an old chum whom he hasn't seen in 25 years. Kevin manages to convince Gary that he is indeed the expected friend who has come to visit. Thanks to Gary's fuzzy memory and Kevin's winning personality, these two strangers are able to become close as friends can be.

The charade proves calamitous as Kevin is affectionately received

into Gary's dysfunctional family and he tries to find out the career choice of the man he's impersonating. Blending through a series of clues, Kevin at first thinks he's supposed to be a linguist, then a wine connoisseur, a

golfer, and finally a famous dentist. By the time the sham is eventually exposed, Kevin's unique perspective on how to achieve success helps bring Gary's family together, and makes Kevin the ideal Houseguest.

New drama combats racial tension: elevates understanding

WATCHING—The drive of *Crosses to Bear* is to promote an honest recounting of true perceptions of average people who may have unique views on racism, ageism, sexism, homophobia, misogyny and duplicity that we all have been guilty of," said Marc Savant of his most recent play.

Savant, who is known to many in New Jersey as a singer and actor, has used his pen boldly to challenge the problems caused by all types of "ism's."

Crosses to Bear is a drama in which Savant has placed nine characters of different ages, sexes, ethnicity's and backgrounds representing a spectrum of opinions ranging from radical hate mongers to the Korean-American and Native-American perspectives. He hopes to

spark a positive dialogue toward achieving change.

"I've written a number of plays, a screenplay and have almost completed my first novel, but *Crosses to Bear* has been getting the most attention. I expect that the play will either be spoken of with admiration or contempt. I don't mind which, as long as people talk about the issues. The implications of change versus non-change should be discussed."

When asked whether this piece was autobiographical in any way, Savant said, "It's not really about experiences that I have had. I could write volumes about how racism or any other 'ism' has impacted on my life, but my goal in *Crosses to Bear* was to remove myself from it, in a way, and present lesser heard voices. Voices that have just as much to say."

Local poet shares precious moments

by Sherry Burrus

What is poetry? To some it is a pass time art. To others it is a bunch of words only the author can relate to.

Many believe it's writing what's in your heart. While pessimists may say "it's all fake; none of it's true."

But to Claudia Gonsalves, poet, publisher, writer and editor, of Plainfield:

"Poetry is being conscious of life itself. Being aware of a gift that you

have to play with words. Poetry is different ways to say a simple thing in different ways that will mean different things to different people. Poetry is my way of sharing what was given to me with the world."

And share, she does. Gonsalves has just self-published her first book of poetry entitled *Precious Moments. My Gift To You*, which was inspired by her family, friends and author Kitty Brooks, whom she met at a poetry reading.

"She was at my first public poetry reading at Union County College. I was bold enough to take my own poetry and go up to the podium and read. Afterwards she came up to me and asked me 'Whose work was that. I really enjoyed it.' I looked at her and smiled and told her it was my work and she said 'You wrote that?' So, that pushed me further to write," Gonsalves said.

Gonsalves believes, "You can become a poet just by becoming aware of

the things around you and life and taking time out to understand your own feelings."

Gonsalves was also impressed by poet, Phyllis Wheatley, a slave who wrote her first poem at the age of 14. Like Wheatley, Gonsalves too first began writing poetry as a teenager. She would write for her father, Claude Gonsalves, a sea captain, who would read her poetry on his ship.

Many of her poems were written from her own and other people's personal experiences. Her poem "Lady Luck," was inspired by one of her male acquaintances' personal experiences with a woman. He didn't have much to offer her materially, and as a result the relation never blossomed. "Lady Luck" encourages the woman and all women to hold on to a man who can offer you a genuine caringness, concern and love.

One of her longer poems "Forgotten, Not Yet Forbidden Town" was

inspired by a wrong turn in the Gateway City, Newark.

"I was on my way to my mom's one day and happened to make a wrong turn in Newark and I could not believe what I saw. I had never been to this place that I ended up in and it just seemed so deserted, but yet I knew that people lived there. I was sort of afraid, but yet I didn't want to leave. The shock, the pain everything that I felt was just so overwhelming for me. When I finally got to my mom's place, in the parking lot I could hold it any longer. I had to put it on paper."

So what's next for the, native born South American, poet? What else but a second poetry book entitled *Reality which is due out this year.*

For a copy of *Precious Moments... My Gift To You* send a check or money order for \$9.45 (\$6.95 per copy, \$2.50 for shipping and handling) to INOPA, P.O. Box 5407,

Plainfield, NJ 07061. Please allow up to six weeks for delivery.

CLAUDIA A. GONSALVES

PRECIOUS MOMENTS

MY GIFT TO YOU

Precious Moments... My Gift To You is a collection of original poems by Claudia Gonsalves

SINBAD

PHIL HARTMAN

He came. He ate. He stayed.

HOUSEGUEST

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STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE
SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

Business Calendar

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
NEWARK—Government Contracts for Small Business at the NJIT PTA Center. Free. For info call 201-596-3105

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
JERSEY CITY—Establishing Your Own Exporting Company. 6-week course sponsored by the Hudson County Community College Center for Business and Industry from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For info call 201-714-2194.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9
NEW BRUNSWICK—Business Opportunity Success on Sales Calls. An interactive presentation sponsored by NJAWBO at the State Regency from 6 to 9 p.m. For info call 908-721-3030.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
SADDLEBROOK—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 17 & 24. Sponsored by Sharkey's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

JERSEY CITY—Finance Workshop sponsored by the SBA at Hudson County Community College from 8:45 a.m. to noon. For info call 908-927-2846.

PHILADELPHIA—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 17 & 24. For info call 908-985-7207.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
SOMERSET—The Somerset County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting business card exchange from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Somerset. For more info call 908-725-1552.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
WOODBRIDGE—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 19 & 25. For info call 908-985-7207.

MORRISTOWN—SCORE and the Morris County Chamber of Commerce sponsor a One Stop Shop for a Business Loan at the Chamber office, Park Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to noon. For info call 201-393-3682.

NEW YORK—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 18 & 25. For info call 908-985-7207.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
MORRISTOWN—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 19 & 25. For info call 908-985-7207.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
NEWARK—Senator Wyonna Lipman's Saturday Seminar. Information of interest to the small, minority and women owned business from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For info call 201-622-0007.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
NEWARK—Pre Business Seminar on Starting Your Own Business sponsored by SCORE. Held at Bell Atlantic, at Broad Street from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 201-645-3982.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
MT. HOLLY—Starting A Business, sponsored by the RSBDC. For info call 609-267-9660.

JAMESBURG—10 Things Every Woman Should Know About Investing...The Truth About Women & Money seminar sponsored by United Jersey Bank will be at the Forsgate Country Club. For specific times or further info call 1-800-UJB-3259.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
BRIDGEWATER—Independent Contractors, Subcontractors seminar sponsored by the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce. Call 908-725-1552.

EDISON—Government Contracts for Small Business sponsored by the NJIT PTA Center. For info call 609-742-0564.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21
JAMESBURG—10 Things Every Woman Should Know About Investing...The Truth About Women & Money seminar sponsored by United Jersey Bank will be at the Forsgate Country Club. For specific times or further info call 1-800-UJB-3259.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
LINCOLN—The International Business Roundtable will meet from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the RVCW Weipa Theatre to discuss common interests in the field of international trade. For info call 908-526-1200.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
PLAINFIELD—Black Business Association of Plainfield meeting at the Mohawk Lodge at 7:30 p.m. For info call 908-561-5996.

MAYS LANDING—Government Contracts for Small Business sponsored by the NJIT PTA Center. For info call 609-742-0564.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
FREEHOLD—NJAWBO Regional Annual Dinner Meeting. For info call 908-842-0929.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
PHILADELPHIA—Fundamentals of Marketing: Modern Concepts and Practices. Sponsored by the AMA. For info call 1-800-262-9699.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
HOUSTON—World of Opportunity: Solutions for Minority Entrepreneurs seminar. Sponsored by the American Association of Minority Businesses, Inc. For info call 1-800-381-2262.

Send Business Calendar events to
 P.O. Box 1774
 Plainfield, NJ 07061

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

by Charles E. Belle

If you wish to join the eight out of 10 working Americans who plan to retire before age sixty-five(65), you will be pleased at the prospect of a propitious new year. You need only face the Federal Reserve Bank itself. It has raised interest rates a record six times over a year with no apparent effect on the U.S. economy. The

reason, market. Many manufacturers are getting their increases in sales and profits in places other than the United States. Therefore, while increased interest rates have hurt housing starts and sales in this country, companies that can beg, borrow or bargain in foreign markets are not as affected by actions of the Fed.

The worldwide financial markets are making the Federal Reserve Bank's actions less a player in this

globalized economy. The major reason is more responsive foreign central bank policies. Positive proof of this is the fact that today the United States, Japan and Germany have nearly identical yield curves between three-month and ten-month maturities after adjusting for inflation. This means the cost of money to borrow is the same in America, Asia or Europe with equal safety of principal.

It also means an investment in

either country is just as safe. Therefore, whichever country offers the greatest profit opportunity will get the money for investment and its higher return. This coupled with a cheap United States dollar, means expansion externally for U.S. multinational corporations. They are no longer dependent on U.S. dollars doled out by the Fed at low interest rates to expand in the U.S. or a high U.S. interest rate rolled up by the Fed to stop their expansion either here or abroad. They can actually borrow abroad at a longer rate and

expand in the U.S. or overseas. Since their base of operations is in the U.S. their headquarters and other high tech support services will continue to grow in the near future.

Fault lies in the limited type of high salaried positions that are produced in this scenario. Since only a select few people with the proper education, technical and scientific skills are in demand at home in the U.S., the economist, Avinash Dixit, has suggested that technological change is turning industrial nations

(Continued on page 10)

Plan smart to get big tax deductions

by Charles J. Givens

Big tax deductions are not something that happen to you but something you create through smart tax planning. Your small business gives you lots of great opportunities for creating thousands each year in new tax deductions.

Begin marketing immediately to make business start-up costs deductible the first year.

Business start-up costs that you incur prior to marketing a product or service must be deducted or amortized over a five-year period at 20 percent per year.

Expenses you incur after your business begins are fully deductible

in the year you spend the money. Begin marketing your product or service immediately to establish the starting date of your business. All start-up expenses will then be deductible in the current year.

Use your personal assets in your small business and deduct the business use percentage.

Using your personal equipment, such as home computers, videotape and cassette recorders, calculators, tools, or furniture in your business makes these assets deductible.

The percentage of time you use an item for business versus personal use determines how much of the cost you can deduct. You may deduct the business use percentage of an item but not the personal use percentage.

Your computer is used for business when used for record keeping, business projections or computing your business tax deductions. Your videotape recorder is used for business when you buy or rent video tapes that relate to any phase of your business.

Your video camera is deductible if you use it at conventions, lectures, for practicing sales presentations, or in any other way that relates to your business. Computer and video supplies are fully deductible when used for business purposes.

If your state and federal income brackets total 35 percent, a \$5,250 deduction would save you \$1,837 in taxes, a nice rebate on the electronics and equipment you own.

COMMENTARY

by Senator Bill Bradley

On December 1, the Senate gave final Congressional approval to the Uruguay round of GATT, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. GATT's passage is a tremendous victory for the people of New Jersey, consumers and businesses alike. It capped a decade of difficult negotiations, and for the United States and 122 other nations around the world, it represents a giant step toward global free trade.

There are compelling reasons why this agreement is so important. Broadly speaking, GATT will allow goods and services to flow more freely between countries. I believe GATT will help lay the foundation for American prosperity into the 21st century.

For consumers in New Jersey, the agreement will mean a \$30 billion tax cut. Right now, nearly every foreign-made product you buy is taxed. This tax, or tariff, is a fee the government levies on imported goods. Under the new GATT agreement, nations will eliminate or reduce many of these tariffs. As a result, you'll pay less for the items you need, and you'll have more disposable income. That's why I call GATT the largest tax cut in world history.

For New Jersey businesses, the agreement will mean a dramatic expansion of markets. Just as Americans pay tariffs on most imports, the goods we sell abroad are taxed before they reach local shores. Taxes make our goods more costly to foreign consumers, and fewer people can afford them. GATT will reduce tariffs by \$744 billion over the next 10 years. Pharmaceutical products will be duty free. New Jersey exports like electronics and medical equipment will also benefit.

In addition, GATT will break down the trade barriers that prevent New Jersey manufacturers from entering many foreign markets at all. It will simplify customs procedures and protect the copyrights and patents vital to New Jersey industries. All of these changes mean bigger markets for New Jersey businesses, and more jobs for New Jersey workers.

Between 1987-93 New Jersey's exports grew 90 percent. Foreign trade has been responsible for half our economic growth since 1987. Over 200,000 jobs in our state are tied to export industries. By the year 2005, 18,000 more New Jerseyans will have jobs because of GATT. And the Treasury Department estimates that every family will be \$1,700 richer once the agreement is fully implemented.

GATT is good for New Jersey, and it is good for our nation. We're facing sweeping economic transformations brought on by changes like the end of the Cold War, the advent of the computer age, and others. These changes have made workers anxious about their future. GATT will help us treat change as opportunity, not threat. It will boost the world economy through increased

trade, and it will put New Jersey in a prime position to take advantage of a stable, more prosperous world.

If you would like to discuss this issue or any other with me,

please call me at my live call-in TV show, the first Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. on the Cable Television Network. Call 1-800-736-8255 during the show.

The positive side of GATT

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